

THE SALVATION ARMY  
USA Western Territorial Headquarters  
180 East Ocean Boulevard  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4709

WILLIAM BOOTH  
Founder

SHAW CLIFTON  
General

JAMES M. KNAGGS  
Territorial Commander

November 9, 2010

Marlene Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers,  
WC Docket No. 07-135;**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

My name is Clarence White. I am Chief Information Officer for the United States Western Territory of The Salvation Army. We are an evangelical part of the universal Christian church established in 1865, and we been supporting those in need for 126 years. Currently, over 31 million Americans receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year through a broad array of social services that range from providing food for the hungry, relief for disaster victims, assistance for the disabled, outreach to the elderly and ill, clothing and shelter to the homeless and opportunities for underprivileged children. About 83 cents of every dollar raised by The Salvation Army is used to support those services in 5,000 communities nationwide.

As the Salvation Army's Chief Information Officer, I have approximately 10,000 employees in thousands of small centers thinly spread throughout my region. The costs of telecommunication has always been a large drain on our budget due to the vast amount of territory the Salvation Army needs to cover to help those in need. Thankfully, about four years ago we discovered free conferencing services. Free conferencing services have allowed us to greatly reduce our costs. We used to pay 8¢ per person per minute for conference calls using our former provider. Now, we pay approximately 1.9¢ per minute under our current plan. Free conferencing services are responsible for saving The Salvation Army approximately \$10,000 a month.

I am writing to you today because I have learned that the Federal Communications Commission is considering changing rules so that free conferencing services are no longer available. This action will cost The Salvation Army thousands of dollars a month, and reduce the number of people we help. Therefore, I respectfully ask that you do not enact rules that do away with free conferencing services. I ask that you consider the many people in need who we help every day and the fact that we have limited resources that need to be stretched even further during these difficult economic times.

Sincerely,



Clarence White, Chief Information Officer

CC: Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker